

REMARKS

This responds to the Office Action mailed on September 3, 2008.

Claim 15 is currently amended, claim 33 is currently canceled, and no claims are added; as a result, claims 1-9, 13, 14, 15, and 34 are now pending and subject to examination in this application.

Claim Objections

Claim 15 was objected to as being improperly dependent on claim 13.

Claim 15 has been amended to be dependent on claim 14. Claim 15 has further been amended by deleting the “means” language and substituting therefore the “processor configured for.”

The Applicant respectfully submits that these amendments to claim 15 overcome the objection to claim 15, and the Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the objection to claim 15.

§ 112 Rejection of the Claims

Claim 15 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, as being indefinite.

Claim 15 has been amended per the suggestion in the Office Action. The Applicant respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15.

§ 103 Rejection of the Claims

Claim 33 was rejected under 35 U.S.C. § 103(a) as being obvious over Wanderski (U.S. Patent No. 6,519,617) in view of Yamakawa et al. (U.S. Patent No. 5,907,851).

The Applicant has deleted claim 33, thereby mooting the rejection of claim 33.

Allowable Subject Matter

Claims 1-9, 13, 14, and 34 were allowed. The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claims 1-9, 13, 14, and 34 are allowed.

Claim 15 was indicated to be allowable if rewritten to overcome the rejection(s) under 35 U.S.C. § 112 set forth in the Office Action. The Applicant gratefully acknowledges the indication that claim 15 contains allowable subject matter. The Applicant respectfully submits that the amendments to claim 15 put claim 15 into a condition for allowance, and respectfully requests the withdrawal of the rejection of claim 15.

CONCLUSION

Applicant respectfully submits that the claims are in condition for allowance, and notification to that effect is earnestly requested. The Examiner is invited to telephone Applicant's representative at (612) 371-2140 to facilitate prosecution of this application.

If necessary, please charge any additional fees or deficiencies, or credit any overpayments to Deposit Account No. 19-0743.

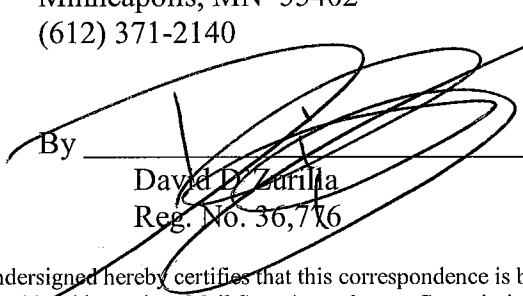
Respectfully submitted,

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Date

May 12, 2009

By


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CERTIFICATE UNDER 37 CFR 1.8: The undersigned hereby certifies that this correspondence is being filed using the USPTO's electronic filing system EFS-Web, and is addressed to: Mail Stop Amendment, Commissioner for Patents, P.O. Box 1450, Alexandria, VA 22313-1450 on this 12th day of May, 2009.

CHERYL L. DANKERS

Name

Signature

